

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. Cellulose ether blends comprising
  - 5 a) cellulose ether,
  - b) from 0.1 to 10% by weight of an additive selected from the group consisting of starch, starch ether, guar, guar ether and xanthan, based on the cellulose ether in a dry form,
  - 10 c) optionally from 0.05 to 1% by weight of polyacrylamide, based on the dry cellulose ether, and
  - d) optionally further additives,

characterized in that additive b) has been metered-in as an aqueous solution or as a powder, and polyacrylamide c) has been metered-in as an aqueous solution to form a water-moist cellulose ether having a moisture content in the range from 25% to 75% by weight, based on the weight of the moist cellulose ether, with mixing and optionally with further addition of water.
- 20 2. Cellulose ether blends according to Claim 1, characterized in that the cellulose ether is methyl cellulose or methylhydroxyalkyl cellulose.
3. Cellulose ether blends according to Claim 1, characterized in that the additive b) has been metered in as a powder.
- 25 4. Cellulose ether blends according to Claim 1, characterized in that the polyacrylamide c) is an anionic polyacrylamide having a sodium acrylate content of less than 20% by weight and a viscosity of less than 1 000 mPas.

5. Cellulose ether blends according to Claim 1, characterized in that a starch ether selected from the group consisting of hydroxyalkyl starch, alkylhydroxyalkyl starch and carboxymethylhydroxyalkyl starch is used as additive b).

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6. Process for producing cellulose ether blends of increased bulk density, comprising metering in a cellulose ether with mixing:

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- a) from 0.1 to 10% by weight of an additive selected from starch, starch ether, guar, guar ether or xanthan is metered into a water-moist cellulose ether having a moisture content in the range from 25 to 75% by weight based on the total weight of the blend, the percentages by weight being based on a dry form of the cellulose ether, in the form of an aqueous solution or in the form of a powder,

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- b) optionally, from 0.01 to 1% by weight of polyacrylamide, in the form of an aqueous solution, the percentages by weight being based on the dry cellulose ether, and

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- c) optionally, further additives

and, optionally, further adding water, and subsequently milling and drying the blend.

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7. Process according to Claim 6, characterized in that the milling and drying are carried out in one step as combined milling/drying.

8. Process according to Claim 6, characterized in that the further addition of water is made until the granule moisture content of the blend is from 45 to 80% by weight, based on the total weight of the blend.
- 5 9. A process for preparing construction material system comprising adding therein cellulose ether blends according to Claim 1.
10. The process according to Claim 9, characterized in that the construction material systems are tile adhesives, cement compositions or plaster  
10 compositions, trowelling compositions or cementitious construction material mixtures suitable for extrusion.